(b) and (c) World Bank through its soft lending affiliate i.e. International Development Association (IDA) had assisted the Subernarekha Irrigation Project which is an inter-state Project of Bihar, Orissa & West Bengal. The credit agreement became effective from 17.8.1982 and the full credit amounting to Rs. 193 crores was disbursed by August, 1989.

There has been a steep decline in the funds being made avaialble to the Project after the closure of World Bank Aid in April, 1990 which has adversely affected the progress of the Project including the rehabilitation of Oustees.

Central Water Commission held a meeting on the Subernarekha Multipurpose Project on 21.11.1994 with the Egineers of Bihar, Orissa & West Bengal to discuss the progress of the Project, funding position and payments made by the beneficiaries states towards their share costs. It was stressed that the requisite funds should be made available to complete the works of Chandil Dam, Galudih Barrage and right bank canal ex-Gruldih, besides settling inter state payment issues among the concerned states.

Intention of World Bank on SSP

8482. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the newspaper report published in the Indian Express dated 2nd May, 1995 where by the World Bank has raised serious doubts about the Sardar Sarovar Project's Economic Rate of Return on investment and its completion on Schedule;

(b) whether Government would still stick to its earlier announcement to complete the project as per schedule i.e. the year 2000 A.D.: and

(c) if so, steps Govt. propose to take to convince the World Bank of its intention not only to complete the project in time but also to rehabilitate all the oustees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir. However, the News Paper Report published in the Indian Express dated 2nd May, 1995 does not reflect the correct picture.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) At the time of withdrawing from the World Bank assistance for the Sardar Sarovar Project, the Government have reaffirmed the continued commitment of the Government of India and the State Governments to fully meet the Resettlement & Rehabilitation and environmental standards during further implementation of the project.

Assistance for Anti-Sea Erosion Works in Karnataka

8483. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Karnataka have sought assistance from the Centre for taking up anti-sea erosion works on Karnataka coast;

(b) whether Central Govt. are aware that Uttara Kannada and Dakshina Kannada districts of Karnataka are subjected to severe sea erosion, calling for ugent measures involving an outlay of Rupees 200 crores;

(c) whether it is a fact that only a meagre sum of Rupees 93 lakhs has so far been released by the Centre during 1991-92. forcing the State Government to undertake sea erosion works of urgency on its own;

(d) whether the Central Government would realise the gravity of